



Resources for Archival Research on POW/Missing Personnel

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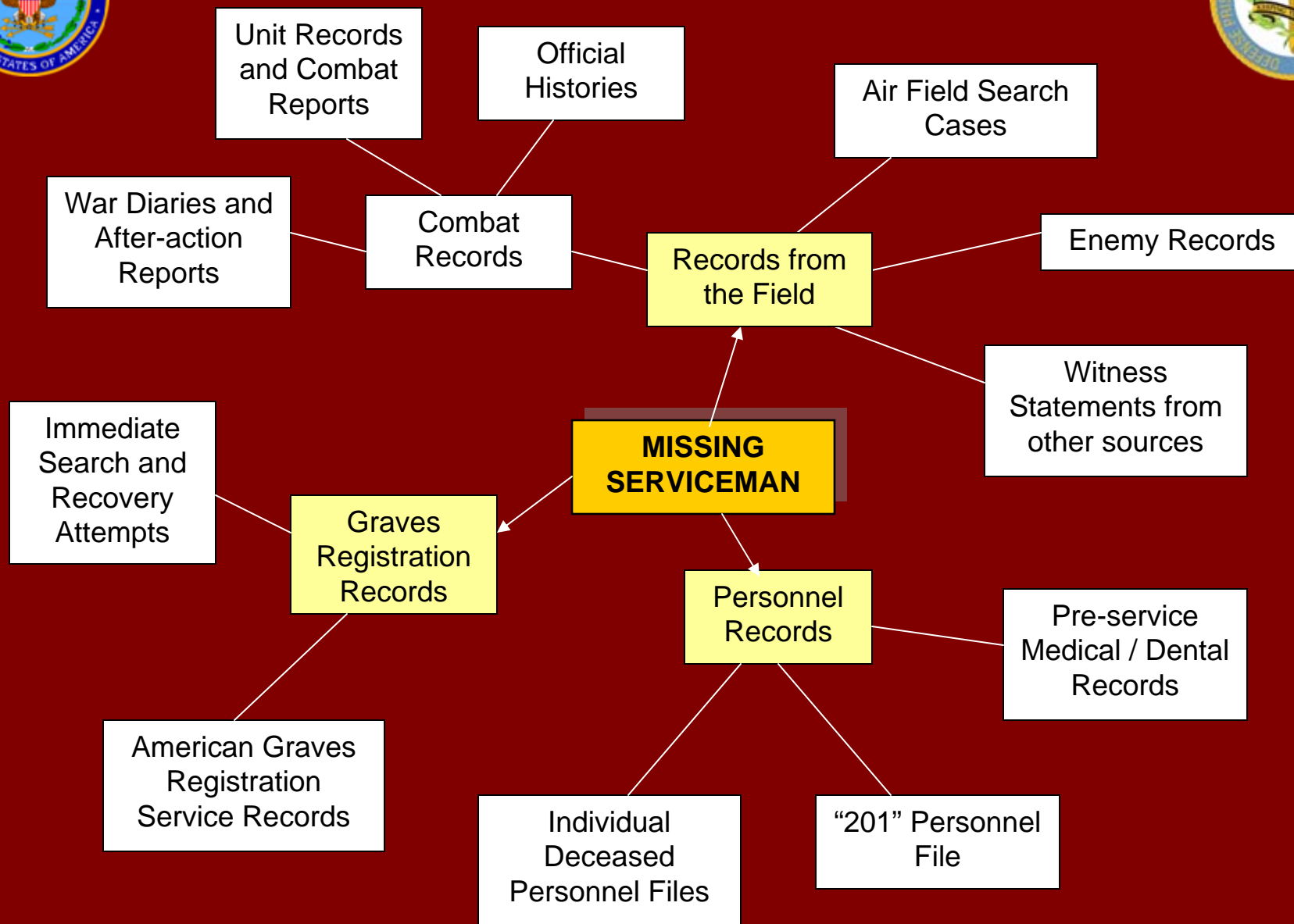
ARCHIVAL RESEARCH MISSION



“To continue the worldwide search for historical documents that may contribute to case resolution for U.S. POW/MIAs from World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, and the Vietnam War.”

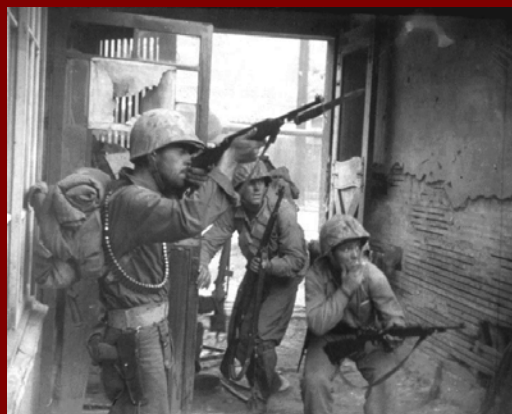


HISTORICAL SOURCES





Individual Personnel File "201 File"



This file records duty stations and medical treatments, from enlistment (or commissioning) to end of service.

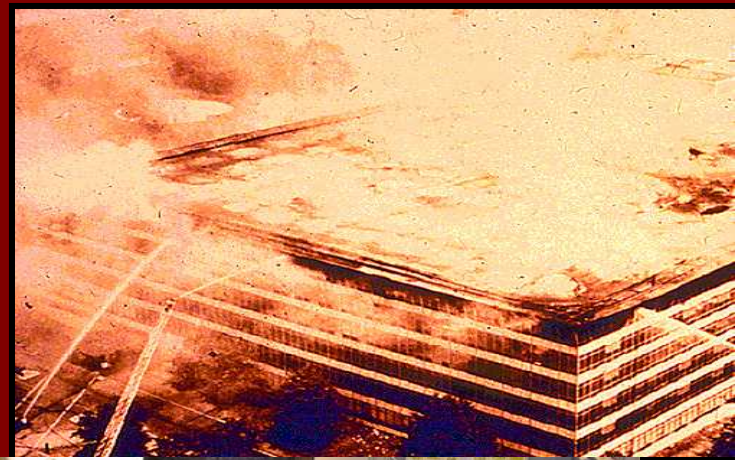
Location: National Personnel Records Center
St. Louis



1973 National Personnel Records Center Fire Destroyed:



- U.S. Army – 80% of records from 1912 to 1960
- U.S. Air Force – 75% of records from 1947 - 1964
- NO DUPLICATE copies exist





Individual Deceased Personnel File



This file records details of the loss incident and subsequent search efforts



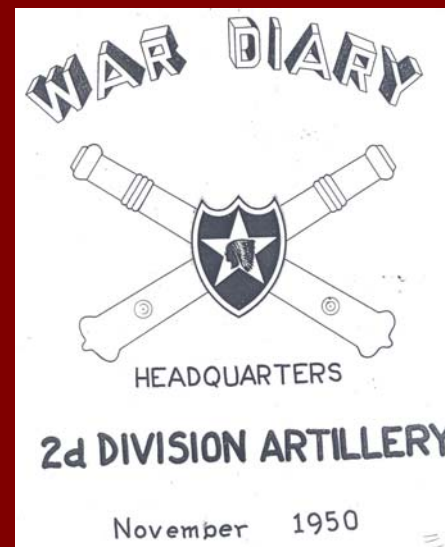
Records from the Field



**Unique Sources
and Research
Strategies for each
Branch of Service**



ARMY RECORDS



- Command reports (National Archives)
- Morning reports (St. Louis)
- Unit journals & diaries (National Archives)





AIR FORCE RECORDS



- Air field search cases (Korean War)
- Unit histories (weekly or monthly)





NAVY RECORDS



- Ship's logs
- Casualty Assistance Branch records



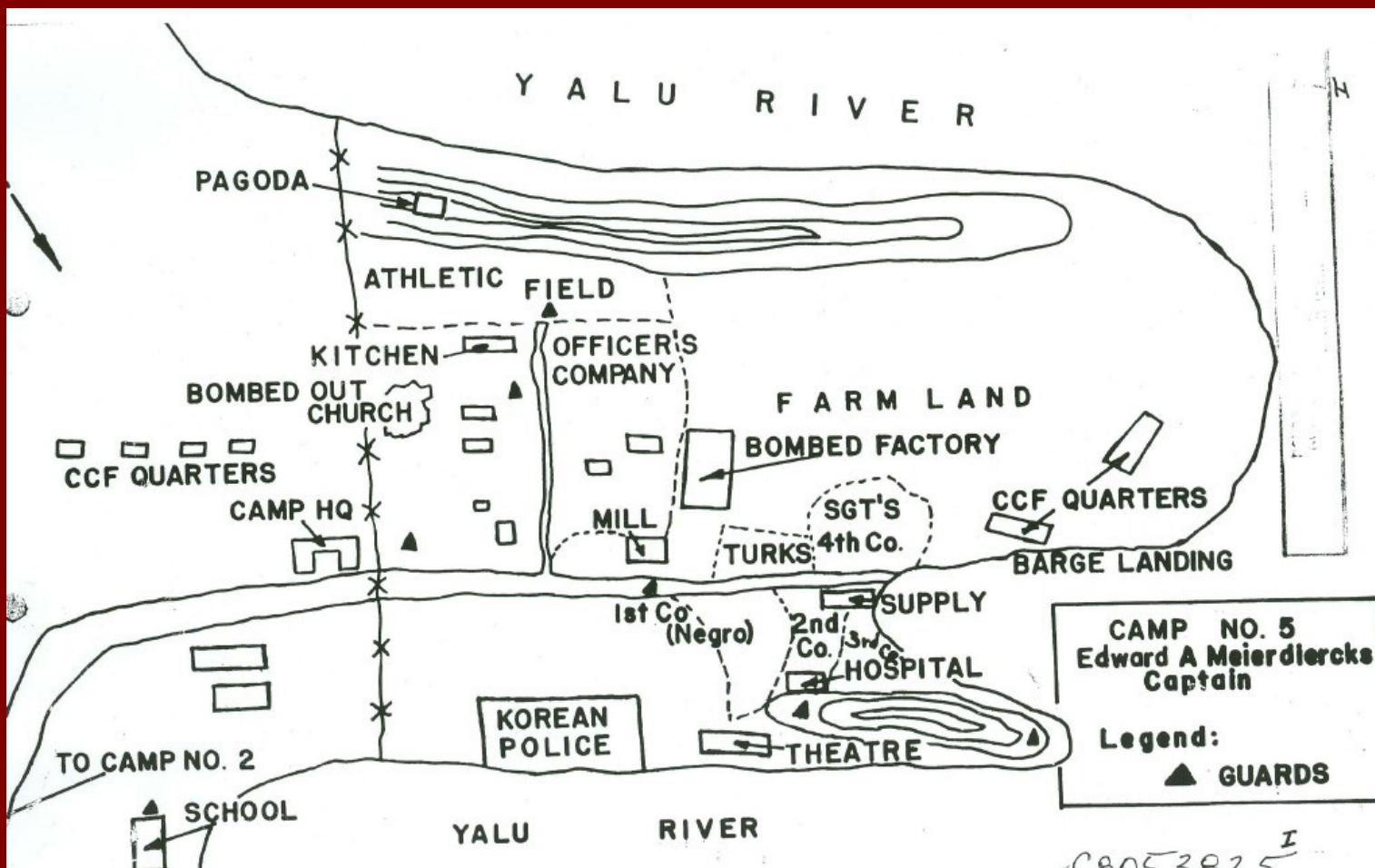
MARINE CORPS RECORDS



- Operational Records
- Post-combat interviews



Reports from US POWs

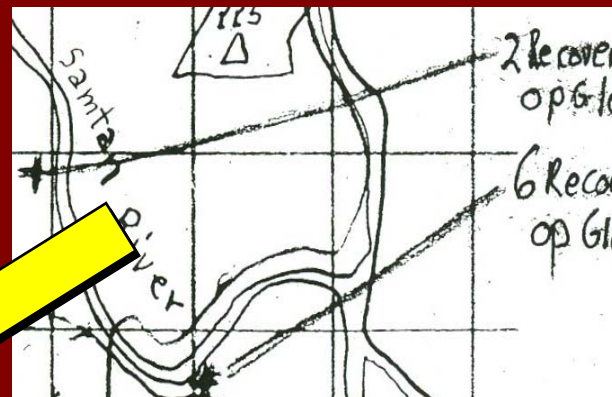




GRAVES REGISTRATION FILES



- Field search cases
- Field search reports
- Mortuary records
- Unknown "X" files





U.S. Record Repositories



➤ National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri

Records available include:

- Individual Personnel Files (“201 Files”)
- Morning Reports
- Payroll Records





U.S. Record Repositories



- Washington National Records Center, Suitland, Maryland

-Individual Deceased Personnel Files



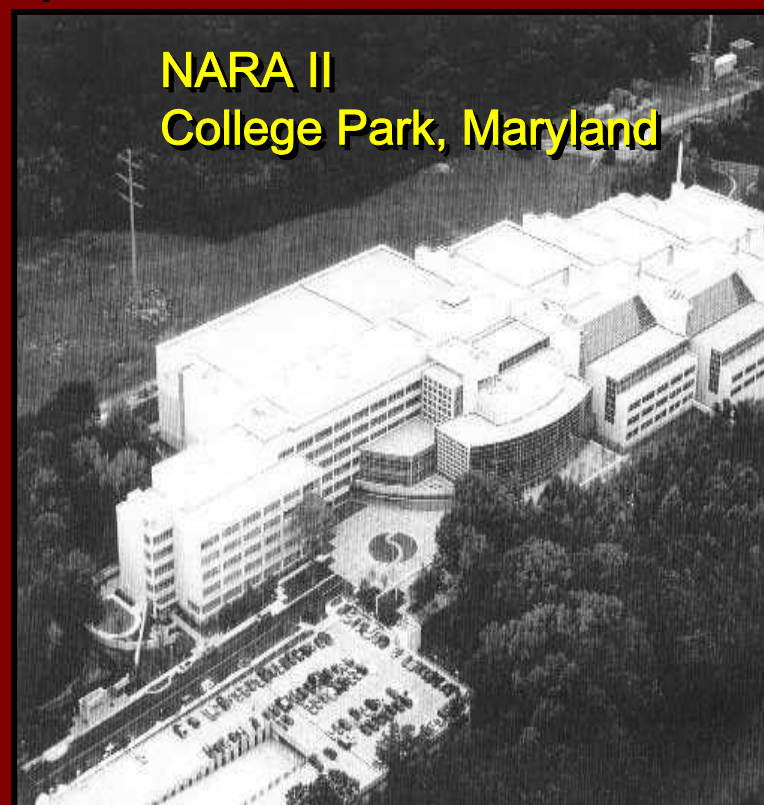


U.S. Record Repositories



➤ National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)

- Organizational History Files
- Command Reports
- Daily Journal Files
- Honors and Awards
- Ships Logs
- Unit Photographs and Film





Research Challenges





ARCHIVAL RESEARCH CHALLENGES

- Number & Geographic Distribution of Records Repositories
- Sheer Volume of Material
- Poor or No Indexing
- Lost, Missing, Misfiled, Burnt or Destroyed records



Public Data (available online)

- Personnel Missing - Korea (PMKOR) Database
- Korean War Aircraft Loss Database (KORWALD)
- Korean War Official Histories – Center for Military History website